**MONDAY JULY 04 – XIV WEEK O.T. [C]**

**When Jesus arrived at the official's house and saw the flute players and the crowd who were making a commotion, he said, "Go away! The girl is not dead but sleeping." And they ridiculed him.**

**The ridicule has a great theological value for us. It says that the girl is truly dead. If the girl is really dead, she was really risen by Christ the Lord. The Lord has never allowed that his deeds were called into question. Here are some historical examples: Abraham is with no children and moreover advanced in years. He has no children since Sarah is barren and she is advanced in years as well. Before this human impossibility, the faith in God’s almightiness is true:** “**When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said: "I am God the Almighty. Walk in my presence and be blameless. Between you and me I will establish my covenant, and I will multiply you exceedingly." When Abram prostrated himself, God continued to speak to him: "My covenant with you is this: you are to become the father of a host of nations. No longer shall you be called Abram; your name shall be Abraham, for I am making you the father of a host of nations. I will render you exceedingly fertile; I will make nations of you; kings shall stem from you. I will maintain my covenant with you and your descendants after you throughout the ages as an everlasting pact, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. I will give to you and to your descendants after you the land in which you are now staying, the whole land of Canaan, as a permanent possession; and I will be their God." (Gen 17, 1-8)**

**We know that in the moment in which the Lord went to Abraham to give him the good news that in a year Sarah would have held a son born of her in her arms, she laughed in incredulity:** **"Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There in the tent," he replied. One of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah will then have a son." Sarah was listening at the entrance of the tent, just behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years, and Sarah had stopped having her womanly periods. So Sarah laughed to herself and said, "Now that I am so withered and my husband is so old, am I still to have sexual pleasure?" But the LORD said to Abraham: "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I really bear a child, old as I am?' Is anything too marvelous for the LORD to do? At the appointed time, about this time next year, I will return to you, and Sarah will have a son." Because she was afraid, Sarah dissembled, saying, "I didn't laugh." But he said, "Yes you did." (Gen 18, 9-15)**

**The Lord will never allow one to call his almightiness into question. We know that the magicians of Egypt, before the deeds accomplished by Moses by command of the Lord, at a certain point surrendered declaring that Moses acted with the finger of God:** “**Thereupon the LORD said to Moses, "Tell Aaron to stretch out his staff and strike the dust of the earth, that it may be turned into gnats throughout the land of Egypt." They did so. Aaron stretched out his hand, and with his staff he struck the dust of the earth, and gnats came upon man and beast. The dust of the earth was turned into gnats throughout the land of Egypt. Though the magicians tried to bring forth gnats by their magic arts, they could not do so. As the gnats infested man and beast, the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." Yet Pharaoh remained obstinate and would not listen to them, just as the LORD had foretold.” (Ex 8, 12-15) Faith is always fruit of a human act and the human act is fruit of the will ad of the sound rationality of man. Whoever does not believe in God’s deeds attests that he does not want to believe and he does not want to believe for a substantial, ontological fault of his nature. From good nature has he become evil nature.**

**LET US READ THE TEXT OF Mt 9,18-26**

**While he was saying these things to them, an official came forward, knelt down before him, and said, "My daughter has just died. But come, lay your hand on her, and she will live." Jesus rose and followed him, and so did his disciples. A woman suffering hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the tassel on his cloak. She said to herself, "If only I can touch his cloak, I shall be cured." Jesus turned around and saw her, and said, "Courage, daughter! Your faith has saved you." And from that hour the woman was cured. When Jesus arrived at the official's house and saw the flute players and the crowd who were making a commotion, he said, "Go away! The girl is not dead but sleeping." And they ridiculed him. When the crowd was put out, he came and took her by the hand, and the little girl arose. And news of this spread throughout all that land.**

**Here is what Jesus says to those who attributed his deeds to the devil, not being able to deny them:** **"Either declare the tree good and its fruit is good, or declare the tree rotten and its fruit is rotten, for a tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you say good things when you are evil? For from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks. A good person brings forth good out of a store of goodness, but an evil person brings forth evil out of a store of evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will render an account for every careless word they speak. By your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." (Mt 12, 33-37) When nature fails, rationality fails. One is responsible of such fault before God and before men. Mother of God, Woman of most pure nature, let our nature become pure as yours.**